

REMARKS

Summary of Office Action

Claims 1-41 are pending in this application.

The Examiner allowed claims 11 and 20-40 and indicated that claims 3, 8, 9, and 19, which were objected to, would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 1, 2, and 41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tammone, Jr. U.S. Patent No. 6,316,997 (hereinafter "Tammone"), and claims 4-7, 10, and 12-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Rastegar U.S. Patent No. 6,356,135 (hereinafter "Rastegar").

Summary of Applicant's Reply

Applicant appreciates the allowance of claims 11 and 20-40 and the indication that dependent claims 3, 8, 9, and 19 contain allowable subject matter.

Applicant has amended claims 1-4, 8-10, 12, 13, 19, and 41 in accordance with the Examiner's indications of allowable subject matter. Applicant has also added new claims 42-46. No new matter has been added.

Reconsideration of this application in view of the amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Rejections of Claims 1, 2, and 41 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1, 2, and 41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tammone.

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to set forth that the capacitance comprises "two series-connected capacitive elements."

Independent claim 41 has been amended to set forth "a pair of serially connected capacitance means."

Tammone does not show or suggest such claim limitations. Thus, independent claims 1 and 41, and claim 2, which depends from claim 1, are not anticipated by Tammone.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of claims 1, 2 and 41 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn.

The Rejections of Claims 4-7, 10, and 12-18  
Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 4-7, 10, and 12-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Rastegar.

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 4 has been amended to set forth that the first selectable capacitance comprises "serially connected integrated circuit capacitive elements."

Independent claim 10 has been amended to set forth that the first capacitance is of "two series-connected capacitive elements."

And, independent claim 12 has been amended to set forth a first series combination of a first switch, "a first capacitance, a second capacitance," and a second switch.

Rastegar does not show or suggest such claim limitations. Thus, independent claims 4, 10, and 12, and claims 5-7 and 13-18, which depend respectively from claims 4 and 12, are not anticipated by Rastegar.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of claims 4-7, 10, and 12-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn.

The Objections to Claims 3, 8, 9, and 19

Claims 3, 8, 9, and 19 were objected to for being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

These objections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 3, 8, 9, and 19 have been amended to be in independent form including all of the limitations of their base claim (there are no intervening claims). Thus, these claims should now be allowable.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that the objections to claims 3, 8, 9, and 19 be withdrawn.

New Claims 42-46

New claims 42-46 define methods that include the coupling of "two series-connected capacitive elements in series between two circuit nodes."

Neither Tammone nor Rastegar shows or suggests such methods.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that claims 42-46 are neither anticipated by nor obvious from either Tammone or Rastegar.

Conclusion

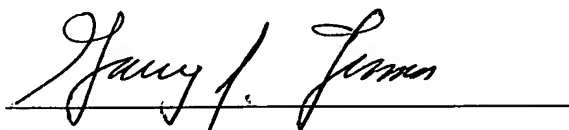
The foregoing demonstrates that claims 1-46 are allowable. This application is therefore in condition for

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allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are accordingly respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Garry J. Tuma", is written over a horizontal line.

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